

REMARKS

Claims 8-14 and 16-27 are pending in the application upon entry of the amendments and new claims. Claims 16-27 have been added to further describe the invention. Claims 1-7 and 15 have been cancelled in view of the Restriction Requirement. Favorable reconsideration in light of the amendments, the new claims, the Terminal Disclaimer, and the remarks which follow is respectfully requested.

Restriction Requirement

During a conversation between Examiner Nguyen and Applicants' representative Gregory Turocy on or about May 21, 2003, the claims were subjected to the following restriction requirement:

Group I (claims 1-7 and 15), and

Group II (claims 8-14).

Affirmation of the provisional election to prosecute Group II (claims 8-14) is hereby made. New claims 16-27 fall within Group II.

The Amendments

Claims 1-7 and 15 have been cancelled in view of the Restriction Requirement. New independent claim 16 generally corresponds to a combination of the subject matter of original claims 8 and 10. New independent claim 23 generally corresponds to a combination of the subject matter of original claims 8 and 13. The new dependent claims have support in the original dependent claims.

The Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 8-14 have been provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over Singh et al (U.S. Patent 6,561,706) in view of Sung et al (U.S. Patent 6,124,178). The subject application and U.S. Patent 6,561,706 are owned by the same entity, Advanced Micro Devices (see Reel/Frame 011989/0025 for the subject application). The enclosed Terminal Disclaimer renders

this rejection moot.

The Information Disclosure Statement

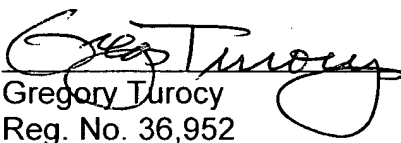
The Examiner notes that the month and year of three publications listed on the PTO-1449 Form accompanying the IDS previously submitted August 31, 2001 are not provided. However, Applicants have been unable to locate such dates after making a reasonable inquiry. It is understood that the publications may be re-classified by the Examiner as unconsidered.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

In the event any fees are due in connection with the filing of this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1063.

Respectfully submitted,

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